THE DISAPPEARANCE of NAGATO YUKI-CHAN

ART **PUYO** STORY **NAGARU TANIGAWA** CHARACTERS: **NOIZI ITO**

CLOSE ENOUGH TO TOUCH...

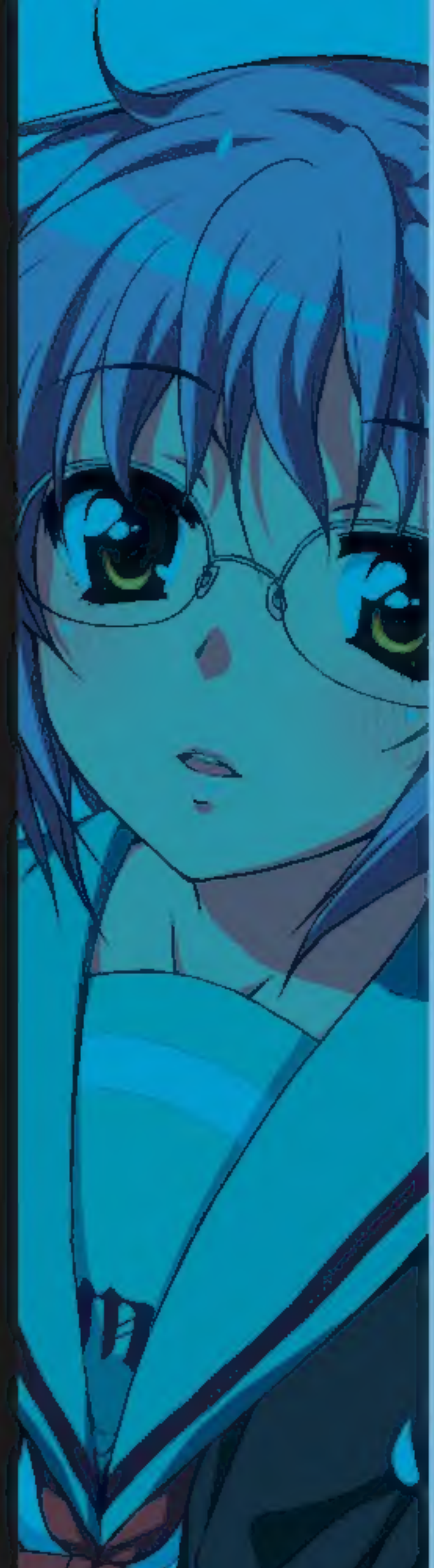
...BUT I CAN'T TOUCH IT...

Epilogue 15>>

Returning the Favor

THE DISAPPEARANCE of NAGATO YUKI-CHAN

ART PUYO STORY NAGARU TANIGAWA CHARACTERS: NOIZI ITO



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MMM... IT MIGHT BE MARCH, BUT IT'S STILL COLD...

KA-CHIK カチャ

YO.

EXTRA MATE-RIAL.

HELLO.

HEY.

WEL-COME!

GOOD EVENING, KYON.

OH, NAGATO AND HARUHI ARE BOTH HERE.

IT'S NO BIG DEAL, BUT...

RUMMAGE ガサゴソ

HMM?

?

IT'S WHITE DAY, SO HERE— I'M RETURNING THE FAVOR.

POP

ぽん

POP

ぽん

WAH—

.....

STAAAARE——

...IF YOU'RE THAT HAPPY, THEN I'M HAPPY TOO.

WELL...

BEAM

ピアア

THANK YOU! I'M SO HAPPY!

YUKI, GIMME THAT FOR A SECOND.

HMMMM...

THANKS.

...SURE?

WHY ARE YOU COMPARING THEM?

ピクッ

TWITCH

TING

ピ°

TOTALLY IDENTICAL.

.....

THEY'RE THE SAME SIZE!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT!

GRIN

にや

GLANCE

チラ...

WE MATCH!

OH-HO, ARE YOU TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHICH IS BIGGER?

.....

RUMBLE

ゴゴゴゴ

EEEEK! SHE REALLY IS MAKING A SCARY FACE!

SAYS THE GUY WHO GAVE ME A RETRO VIDEO GAME ON THE WAY OVER.

HE DOESN'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND WOMEN'S FEELINGS, DOES HE?

HEH...

IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE ME WORRY.

HONESTLY... I JUST GAVE HIM SOME RANDOM STORE-BOUGHT STUFF, BUT NAGATO'S WERE HANDMADE— SO WHY'D WE GET THE SAME GIFT IN RETURN?

SURE!

THANKS, YUKI.

WHAT'S IMPORTANT...

STILL...

HAAH...

TWITCH

TWITCH

IS THAT THIS GIRL...

...IS SO HAPPY.

CAN I OPEN IT?

MAYBE I'M OVER-THINKING IT.

OH, SURE, BUT IT'S NOTHING SPECIAL...

I-I SEE...

THAT'S ALL RIGHT! I DIDN'T EXPECT TO GET ANYTHING AT ALL!

CLENCH

WHAT A SAD GIRL...

DONGGG

ISH ZHUST SHO RISHICU-LOUSH...
DON'T EAT THEM!
MUNCH
MUNCH

COULD YOU STOP STEALING MY LINES?
I'M THE ONE WHO ACTUALLY GOT THE GIFT, AFTER ALL...
LEGALLY YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PAY BACK TRIPLE WHAT YOU RECEIVED!
GEEZ...
HE GAVE COOKIES IN RETURN? WHAT IS THIS, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...?

CRAP! SHE'S GOT ME!
SO I'M BASICALLY THE SAME AS SOMEONE WHO GAVE HIM OBLIGATION CHOCOLATE!
HEH HEH HEH
I DIDN'T GIVE HIM ANY OUT OF CONSID-ERATION FOR NAGATO.

OH, YEAH.

HMM?
BUT... IN THE END, SHE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING, DID SHE?

TCH, WHY DOES RYOUKO GET FIRST DIBS ON EATING THEM WHEN SHE DIDN'T GIVE HIM ANYTHING IN THE FIRST PLACE?
HMM?

YEAH, SHE SURE DID LOOK HAPPY.

BUT SHE SEEMED REALLY HAPPY, SO I SUPPOSE IT'S ALL RIGHT.

IT WAS AMAZING.

SIGH

SO EACH TIME SHE GOES UP A STEP, I CAN SHARE IN HER JOYS AND SORROWS.

SHE'S THE KIND OF GIRL WHO WALKS UP STEPS ONE AT A TIME.

...I'M STARTING TO FEEL LIKE THAT'S ENOUGH.

BUT, Y'KNOW, LATELY...

HEH, IS THAT SO?

I'M PRETTY MUCH THE OPPO-SITE.

I SUPPOSE THAT'S ONE WAY TO LOOK AT IT...

BUT HER ABILITY TO BE HAPPY WITH LITTLE THINGS IS A STRONG POINT.

SHE JUST GOES AT HER OWN PACE— WHAT CAN YOU DO?

YEAH, I GUESS, SINCE SHE WAS HAPPY AND ALL.

WELL, ANYWAY, THAT'S WHY I'M LETTING THINGS GO THIS WAY.

YES, OF COURSE
HUH? YOU'RE STILL HERE?

SHE... WE HEAD HOME AS WELL...
WHY?

.....

FIRST YEAR STU-DENT

THE NEW SEMES-TER

TRY NOT TO SOUND SO MUCH LIKE AN OLD MAN.

THE SECOND YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL ALREADY? I ENVY ALL THOSE FIRST-YEARS, FULL OF HOPES AND DREAMS...

はぁ

WHOA—

I'M SORRY THERE ARE NO HOPES OR DREAMS IN OUR CLUB...

うるる(～

I-I-
I-I—

I'M HAPPY ABOUT IT TOO. HEE HEE.

IT'S A GOOD THING TOO! I WORRY WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF I TAKE MY EYES OFF THIS GIRL.

PATT ぽやっ

...THE THREE OF US WOUND UP IN THE SAME ONE.

...I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT WITH ALL THE CLASSES SHUFFLING AROUND...

STILL...

YEAH.

GRIN

YEAH, ME TOO.

.....

GIGGLE くすくす

IN MY CASE, I SUPPOSE I GO WHEREVER SUZUMIYA GOES.

WELL, IT'S FUN, SO THE WALK'S HARDLY A CHORE.

...CLIMB THAT HILL EVERY DAY JUST TO ATTEND THE CLUB.

I'M AMAZED, BOTH YOU AND KOIZUMI...

WAVE

WAVE

HELLO THERE.

OH, MS. MORI, HELLO!

THANK YOU, WE WILL!

WELL, IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS, JUST LET ME KNOW.

CLASSROOM SMILE

WHAT'RE YOU GUYS ALL LINED UP THERE FOR? GOING TO CLUB?

HUH?

DOES YOUR BRAZEN-NESS KNOW NO BOUNDS!?
Y-YOU'RE JUST TALKING TO TEACHERS HERE LIKE IT'S NO BIG DEAL!?
LOOM

HUH!?
I GOT PERMISSION FROM YOUR SCHOOL A WHILE AGO.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HUH?
WitoA

SUZUMIYA TENDS TO STAND OUT, SO WE COULDN'T KEEP SNEAKING IN FOREVER.
WE WERE WEARING SCHOOL UNIFORMS ON VALEN-TINE'S DAY, WEREN'T WE?
WHEN DID YOU—?
SWIP
すぃっ

Comic

SEE?

HA HA HA

WHETHER WE GOT PERMISSION OR NOT, WE'D STILL KEEP COMING, SO WHAT DOES IT MATTER?

YOU'VE GOT TO TELL ME THESE THINGS.

EEK!?

TWIRRL

I'M PRETTY SURE I TOLD YUKI.

STILL... IT'S ODD.

DON'T WORRY, YOU CAN KEEP DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING. I JUST NEED YOU TO WRITE YOUR NAME HERE REAL QUICK.

HUH? OH, SURE.

W-WAIT JUST A SECOND...

YUKI—

I DIDN'T KNOW!

NAAA-GAAA-TOOOO-SAAAN!

RIGHT THERE, AND MAKE IT QUICK!

WHERE SHOULD I SIGN?

HUH? OKAY.

with the North Hi

Literature C

I'M GOING TO MAKE SOME STUFF UP TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR US TO VISIT, SO JUST GO ALONG WITH IT.

SEE, RYOUKO? I TOLD HER!

WOW, I SERIOUSLY DON'T KNOW WHERE TO EVEN START WITH THAT.

WAAAH!

CRAP! NOW I'M THE TARGET AGAIN!

SO WHY'D YOU HAVE TO BE SO SKETCHY ABOUT GETTING HER SIG-NATURE, HMM?

HMM?

COME TO THINK OF IT...

FWIP

I'M NOT SURE. SHE HASN'T EVEN TOLD ME, SIDEKICK "A," ANYTHING.

LEAVE IT TO ME!

SHOULD WE REALLY BE LETTING HARUHI HANDLE THAT?

...ARE WE ACTUALLY GOING TO TAKE THAT TRIP WE WERE TALKING ABOUT?

MUTTER

OH, THERE IS ONE THING I DO KNOW.

HMM?

HA HA HA NO.

BY THE WAY, YOU'RE SIDEKICK "B."

WFF

HE'S...

SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HAVING FUN. WAY MORE FUN THAN LAST YEAR.

YEAH, IT SURE DOES.

...THAT DOES?

I GET IT ALREADY!

GNASH

GNASH

YEAH... PROB-ABLY.

THAT?

BOFF

BOFF

STOOOP-

HAAH_

A TRIP!
A CLUB
TRIP!!!
IN
SEARCH OF
FUN AND
MYSTERY!

HER IDEA
OF FUN
SOUNDS
PRETTY
EXHAUSTING.

HEYA, KYON!

WHA—

WAH!

YAAAH!

HUH?

WHOA!?

HUH?

WAAAAH!!!

YOU'RE LOOKING AWFULLY SELF-SATISFIED.

WHEW!

I JUST WANTED TO BURST ONTO THE SCENE WITH A BANG!

NYA-HA-HA!

NAGATO, W-WAIT! DON'T SHAKE ME! MY NECK, MY NECK!

DIZZY

GET OFF HIM, PLEASE! DOING NAUGHTY THINGS IS AGAINST THE RULES!

BLUSH

IT WASN'T A COMPLIMENT.

YOU'RE MAKIN' ME BLUSH!

WE JUST GET ALONG WITH THE LIT CLUB SO WELL, I KINDA FORGOT!

HA-HA-HA, YEAH, I S'POSE YOU'RE RIGHT!

WELL, AREN'T YOU THE MAGNANI-MOUS ONE.

BEAM

DON'T BLAME ME IF SOME-THING HAPPENS.

HONESTLY. I THOUGHT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE PROTECTING ASAHINA FROM KYON.

OH, THAT'S GOOD NEWS!

...MIKURU'S GOOD TO GO.

?

YES?

POPP

OH YEAH, BY THE WAY, HARU-NYAN...

HMM?

YUP!

ON OUR CLUB TRIP, OF COURSE!

HUH? WHERE'S SHE GOING?

WE WERE INVITED.

THEY SURE ARE!

THE TWO OF YOU ARE COMING TOO?

HUH?

RISE

むく…

AH-HA-HA! SURE WE DO!

...UM, DO THIRD-YEAR STUDENTS REALLY HAVE TIME FOR A TRIP LIKE THIS?

ぼん DONG

...SO I DON'T MIND IF NON-MEMBERS COME ALONG, BUT...

HMM...

I SEE... I SUPPOSE WE WON'T BE FUNCTIONING AS THE LITERATURE CLUB PER SE...

BAM

MORE LIKE, YOU WEREN'T BEING CONSIDERATE OF THEM *AND* YOU TOTALLY FORGOT TO TELL US, RIGHT?

THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO SAY ANYTHING UNTIL THEY AGREED TO COME!

O-OF COURSE, I TOOK THAT INTO CON-SIDERATION WHEN I INVITED THEM.

BA-BUMP BA-BUMP

I GUESS THAT'S OKAY, THEN. HARUHI AND TSURUYA CAN BE REALLY PUSHY, IS ALL.

ちら BLINK

AH, Y-YES, I'LL BE FINE!

IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT?

FWIP

ぐる DIZZY

THE MORE THE MERRIER, I SUPPOSE...

THIS SHOULD BE FUN...

YOU PICK STRANGE TIMES TO BE ASSERTIVE, ANYWAY.

I GUESS I'M THE SAME.

...I'M THANKFUL WHEN PEOPLE CAN PUSH ME INTO DOING THINGS.

I'M NOT VERY ASSERTIVE, THOUGH, SO...

HA-HA, I SUPPOSE SO.

YEAH.

YEAH, I CAN'T WAIT!

HEE-HEE-HEE, I HOPE WE HAVE A NICE TRIP.

AT THE TIME, NONE OF THEM COULD HAVE IMAGINED...

...HOW THE TRIP WOULD ACTUALLY TURN OUT.

NICE ONE, HARU-NYAN

GREAT, THAT DOES IT FOR THE FORE-SHADOWING!

THE THREE WERE IMMEDIATELY REMINDED JUST HOW MUCH THEY WERE BEING PUSHED AROUND.

GOOD OLD SUZUMIYA.

CAN'T WAIT!

I'VE SECURED THE BEAUTIFUL LASS NECESSARY FOR A STRANGE INCIDENT TO HAPPEN! THIS'LL BE GREAT!

*MIKURU HAS RECEIVED SPECIAL TRAINING.

*AFTER THIS, THE STAFF ENJOYED A DELICIOUS MEAL OF MIKURU-CHAN.

THAT CAPTION'S JUST A JOKE, RIGHT!?

BABOING

BABOING

BOING

BOING

BOING

NAAAAH!!

NAAAAH!!

IT'S ASAHINA-SENPAI!

WAH

OH!

AH, NAGATO-SAN, KYON-KUN, HELLO!

HI.

HELLO!

Epilogue 17 >> Talk-of-the-Past

I THINK SHE'LL BE BACK.

OH, TSURUYA-SAN WENT TO GET SOME-THING SHE FORGOT.

SMILE

HM?

HUH? YOU AREN'T WITH TSURUYA-SENPAI TODAY?

"NAGA-MON!?"

SO HOW'RE YOU, NAGA-MON?

BONG

HEY.

OH, KYON-KUN!? YO!

TOK

TOK

SEE, THERE SHE IS.

HEYA, MIKURU! SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!

NAGAMON..

STILL...

NO KIDDING!

WHAT KIND OF CALLIG-RAPHY CLUB MEMBER FORGETS HER BRUSH?

HA HA HA!

AM I?

...YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE, KYON-KUN!

BUT TSURUYA-SAN, THAT WAS A MISUNDER-STANDING...

CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE!

I'M AMAZED YOU'VE OVER-COME THAT BAD FIRST IMPRESSION TO GET THIS FAR.

AH HA HA...

SHE'S SO SHY SHE USUALLY CAN'T TALK TO GUYS, SO YOU MUST BE SPECIAL!

MIKURU CAN TALK TO YOU EVEN WHEN I'M NOT AROUND!

TING

THEY'RE NOT LISTEN-ING AT ALL...

I CAN PROBABLY OPEN UP A POSITION FOR YOU.

PRETTY SOON I'LL BE ABLE TO PROMOTE YOU FROM A BASIC MEMBER OF THE MIKURU FAN CLUB.

QUIVER

UM, EXCUSE ME!

.....

UH...

WHAT KINDA POSITION DO YOU WANT?

CAN'T KEEP UP WITH THE CONVER-SATION. KINDA LONELY.

SOMEBODY TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED!

BAM

PLEASE!

DO YOU STILL WANT TO KNOW?

IT MAY SHOCK YOU TO HEAR OF IT.

WHAM

NAGA-TOCCHI.

TWITCH

PAT

PLEASE TELL ME!

I DO!

GLINT

IT WAS DECEMBER OF LAST YEAR.

ZSH

I SEE. SO YOU'VE JUST GOT TO KNOW, EH?

UM—

OF COURSE, IT'S TSURUYA-SAN WHO MISUNDER-STOOD, SO WE'RE GOING TO PRESENT THE CORRECT VERSION OF EVENTS.

WELL, I'LL TELL YOU, THEN.

FLIP

THIS MAKES FIVE PEOPLE.

Membership Application

1-5 Kuri

Membership Application

1-5 Taniguchi

OKAY!

BLINK

AH! EH—

STRIDE

STRIDE

I'D BETTER GO GIVE THESE TO NAGATO.

TSURUYA-SAN'S LATE..

TAK TAK

EEK!

OW!

WHUMP

ARE... ARE YOU OKAY?

OWW...

OUCH...

NYAAH!

ゴゴゴゴ

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

HEH-HEH-HEH... YOU THERE, BOYYYY...

NO FUNNY BUSINESS!

RUMBLE

ゴゴゴゴ

RUMBLE

ゴゴゴゴ

SORRY...

AND NOW I HAVE ANOTHER MISUNDER-STANDING TO CLEAR UP...

ぼーん

DOOOM

KYON! ABOUT TO PUSH HER DOWN AND ATTACK!

AND THEN! WHEN I HEARD MIKURU'S CRY, I LOOKED AND SAW—

WHOA!

WHAAAT!?

...STUDY-ING?
YOU WANT ME TO TEACH YOU?
Epilogue 18>>Study Group
YEAH!
NOD NOD
WHAT HAPPENED? WAS YOUR LAST QUIZ GRADE THAT BAD?
TWITCH
WHAT? NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!
WHAT, THEN? KYON, ARE YOU...
...STUPID?
THAT'S NO WAY TO ASK THAT!
MURMUR
I'M NOT AS GOOD IN SCHOOL AS YOU ARE! THAT'S ALL I'M GONNA SAY! BE A LITTLE SENSITIVE, WILLYA!?
MUTTER MUTTER
YEAH, THAT DIDN'T COME UP IN THE ORIGINAL SERIES, SO WE'D BETTER KEEP IT VAGUE, EH?

...IT SHOULD BE A LAST RESORT, AFTER YOU'VE ALREADY TRIED YOURSELF.

...WHEN YOU ASK SOMEONE TO TEACH YOU...

POINT

STILL...

WE HAVE TO AGONIZE OVER THE PROBLEM— THAT LEADS TO THE ANSWER.

APPLICATION IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF STUDY.

IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD IF YOU ASK ME TO HELP YOU RIGHT FROM THE START, KYON-KUN.

I'M SO GLAD YOU UNDER-STAND!

OH GOOD!

BEAM

OKAY, FINE...

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, ASAKURA...

...BUT THE SHORTEST WAY IS NOT ALWAYS THE BEST, DON'T YOU THINK?

SPARKLE

SPARKLE

IT'S TRUE THAT THE SHORTEST WAY TO THE ANSWER IS TO ASK SOMEONE WHO ALREADY KNOWS THE ANSWER...

HE DOESN'T GET IT!

DONGG

I'LL JUST ASK SOMEONE ELSE.

GUESS I'LL GO ASK HER.

TWITCH

SHE SEEMS LIKE SHE'S PRETTY SMART.

MAYBE NAGATO ...

DO WHAT-EVER YOU WANT.

SIGH

GEEZ.

HANG ON A SEC THERE—

GRABB

HEY, NAGA—

FWIP

CLATTER

CLATTER

AH!

WHAT? NOW?

I SHALL TEACH YOU.

WHAT THE —!?

O-OKAY!

ME TEACHER YOU STUDENT.

FLINCH

AH HA HA...

HEH HEH...

COULD THIS BE...?

GULP

NO...IT COULDN'T...

NAGATO-VISION.

SO THAT REALLY HAPPENS! I'VE CONVINCED MYSELF!

WRONG ON BOTH COUNTS.

OR MAYBE THEY LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE GOING TO, BUT THEY ACTUALLY WEREN'T! THAT HAPPENS IN MANGA ALL THE TIME!

BA-BUMP

A KISS...

BA-BUMP

BA-BUMP

?

YES, MA'AM

GOT IT?

HUH? WHY?

SMILE

...BUT YOU CAN'T ASK NAGATO-SAN FOR HELP STUDYING, GOT IT?

LISTEN, KYON-KUN, I'LL WORK WITH YOU IN THE CLUB-ROOM...

DUH?

CHAK

TO CONVEY THE RIGHT MOOD!

FWOOM

ALL RIGHT, LET'S BEGIN.

WHY'D YOU CHANGE CLOTHES?

FLAK

わたっ

ARE WE STUDYING TODAY?

HUH?

FOR ALL SHE COMPLAINED, SHE SURE DOES LIKE TEACHING.

OH, REALLY?

WE'RE NOT DOING ANY SERIOUS WORK HERE, SO GO AHEAD AND PLAY YOUR GAME.

...IT'S FINE! WE'RE JUST DOING A LITTLE REVIEW.

THANKS, NAGATO-SAN, BUT...

I GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE PLAYING VIDEO GAMES NEXT TO YOU, THEN...

I SHOULD STUDY TOO...

.....

HMM?

IT'S A BIT LONELY.

.....

O-OKAY, WELL, I'LL TAKE YOU AT YOUR WORD, THEN...

AH HA HA!!!

SERIOUSLY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, NAGATO.

NO, IT'S TRUE!

カリヲ CLATTER

HELLO.

HEY, WE'RE HERE!

HMM?

SWIFF

HEY.

WHAT'RE YOU GUYS SO FOCUSED ON HERE?

SILENCE

THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE SOMETHING A FANCY PREP STUDENT SHOULD SAY...

うげ～ BLECH

UGH, BEING INTO STUDY-ING...

YEAH, WE'RE SUPER INTO IT.

OH, YOU'RE JUST STUDYING.

LET'S ASSUME THAT SUZUMIYA-SAN IS AMAZING.

IS KOUYOUEN ACADEMY AMAZING, OR IS SHE JUST TOTALLY CRAZY?

DONGG

AREN'T THERE BETTER THINGS TO BE SUPER INTO?

I CAN DO MOST OF THE STUDYING I NEED TO DO JUST BY LISTENING IN CLASS.

DAMNED PREP STU-DENTS!

WE DID THIS QUITE SOME TIME AGO.

STRANGE INDEED.

STRANGE, RIGHT?

GLOOM

HMM? OH, INDEED.

LOOK.

BUT WHY ARE YOU REVIEWING STUFF WE COVERED LAST YEAR?

SIGH

...AND ACT SUPERIOR ABOUT IT.

I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS GOING TO POINT OUT SOME PART YOU HADN'T LEARNED YET...

HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW HOW FAST NORMAL CLASSES COVER MATERIAL?

GEEZ, I'M SORRY ALREADY.

I WAS JUST GRITTING MY TEETH AND BEING IMPRESSED, THAT'S ALL.

IT'S AMAZING HOW DIFFERENT OUR TWO SCHOOLS ARE.

OH, SO YOU WERE JEAL-OUS.

I'M NOT DEFEATED!

I'M...!

LURCH

...IF YOU KEEP ACTING DEFEATED LIKE THIS, I WON'T HELP YOU ANYMORE.

C'MON, KYON-KUN...

WHY AM I THE REPRESEN-TATIVE!?

DON'T YOU MIND BEING MOCKED LIKE THIS, ASAKURA!?

AS THE REPRE-SENTATIVE OF NORTH HIGH!?

GLARE

A-ANYWAY!

THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE HEARD OF IT!

KA-KRAKK

I'VE HEARD WHIS-PERS!

WILL YOU BE THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT NEXT TERM? RUMOR HAS IT YOU WILL!

YOU'RE RYOUKO ASAKURA, STUDENT COUNCIL REP-RESENTATIVE AND MODEL NORTH HIGH STUDENT!

YES! YES, YOU ARE!

RUMBLE

...HOW CRUCIAL MY ROLE AT THIS SCHOOL IS!

WHOOM

I NEVER KNEW... I NEVER KNEW HOW IMPORTANT I WAS...

A LEGEND? I'M A LEGEND!?

CAN YOU, THE LEGENDARY SUPER-PRESIDENT, REMAIN SILENT WHILE OUR SCHOOL'S GOOD NAME IS MOCKED!?

I'M NOT MOCKING ANY-THING.

SHE WENT IN FOR THIS SO QUICKLY!

SUZUMIYA-SAN! NAY, KOUYOUEN ACADEMY! I SHALL BE YOUR OPPONENT!

HUH?

S-SURE, SOUNDS FUN...

ESSEN-TIALLY! WHEN YOU MOCK A STUDENT HERE...

YOU'RE MOCKING ME...AND THE WHOLE OF NORTH HIGH!

HMM.

FLIPP

HERE ARE PROBLEMS FROM A MOCK TEST.

KOIZUMI-KUN!

VERY WELL, THEN! BRING OUT THE PROBLEM!

TING

LET ME CHECK.

SHF

THIS IS ABOUT WHERE YOU'RE AT.

THE THIRD ONE ON THIS PAGE.

HERE.

IT SAYS "MATH," THOUGH.

IT'S AN ENGLISH QUES-TION.

READING.

HMM...

I ASSUME YOU'RE REFER-RING TO YOUR-SELF.

MUTTER

ASAKURA, PLEASE ERASE THIS SHAME.

EVEN IF IT'S SOME-THING I HAVEN'T STUDIED YET...

...I'LL CONNECT IT TO WHAT I DO KNOW AND SOLVE IT WITH PURE REA-SONING!

APPLICATION IS WHAT'S IMPORTANT.

BUT LEAVE IT TO ME.

ZIPP

.....

SKRITCH SKRATCH

.....

SKRITCH

TENSE

SHE'S CRYING !!!

SNIFFLE

SNIFFLE

GLOOOM

SNIFFLE

I'M SORRY I SADDLED YOU WITH IT!

WAAH, BUT I HAVE TO DEFEND NORTH HIGH'S HONOR...

YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED IT YET! IT CAN'T BE HELPED!

W-WAIT, ASAKURA, IT'S OKAY! IT'S ONLY NORMAL YOU CAN'T SOLVE IT!

HUH?

SOB

I'LL JUST HAVE TO USE MY LAST RESORT...

NO. IN MATH, "MAKING GOOD PROGRESS" IS POINTLESS UNLESS YOU SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

SUCH A STRONG SENSE OF RESPON-SIBILITY!

GLOOM

IT-IT'S NOTHING TO CRY ABOUT! YOU WERE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS!

WHY'RE YOU CRYING?

THE REST IS UP TO YOU.

TEARY

OH, SORRY. WHAT IS IT?

NAGATO-SAN, NAGATO-SAN—

BLEEP

BLOOP

YOU WANT ME SOLVE THIS?

JUST WATCH.

FLIPP

C'MON, IF YOU COULDN'T DO IT, THEN I DOUBT YUKI CAN—

HMPH! YOU DIDN'T WRITE ANYTHING DOWN. THAT WAS JUST A GUESS!

UH, YES, I BELIEVE THREE IS THE ANSWER.

?

STAAAARE

IT'S THREE, RIGHT?

Mock Exam Questions
Math

OH, UM, WELL...

TELL ME HOW YOU SOLVED IT.

BLAH BLAH

THEN WITH THE RESULTING *DJWEFE*, YOU TOSS IT INTO *DSWUV*, AND THEN...

PLEASE SUBSTITUTE YOUR FAVORITE DIFFICULT MATH PROBLEM FOR THE ABOVE NONSENSE.

YOU JUST TOSS THE *KDVYO* INTO THE *ED...K VG...*

THERE'S NO POINT IN ASKING HER.

HUH? WHAT? WHAT?

OH? WHY THERE?

...AND THEN, LIKE, *IN...*

THEN THE CURVE GOES *OUT...*

OUT IN

!?

?

LUCKY THEM, GETTING TO STUDY ALL TOGETHER.

...IT'S LIKE SHE'S SPEAKING MOON LANGUAGE.

SFX: SNIFF

"ㄱㄱ"

NAGATO-SAN'S INCREDIBLY SMART...

...BUT SHE'S TERRIBLE AT EXPLANATIONS. SO EVEN IF YOU ASK...

The curve goes OUT, IN, OUT, so here's the answer right here!

LUNCH BREAK, LITERATURE CLUB.

FLIK

HEYA, NAGATO.

Epilogue 19>> Hurdles

STARE

THOUGHT I'D EAT LUNCH IN HERE TODAY.

HEL-LOOOO?

WAVE

WAVE

.....

STAAAARE

...HMM.

SHE'S GOT AMAZING CONCEN-TRATION, FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE...

HA HA HA

ﾄﾝ!

!

HUH?

HUH?

SHUFF

AH—

CLATTER

HA-HA! IF YOU WANT IT BACK, YOU MUST TAKE IT FROM ME!

UM, PLEASE GIVE IT BACK...

TEARY

AAH—!

MYAH!

WAAH, YOU'RE SO MEAN!

HOP

HOP

OOF!

UP

BA-BUMP

AH.....

I-I-I'M SORRY!

UH—

I-I'LL JUST TAKE A STEP BACK...

N-NO, IT'S MY FAULT FOR FOOLING AROUND!

—LATE...

SHOKK

SORRY I'M—

WHAM

ばん

PARDON THE INTER-RUPTION!

KLUNK

ばたん

WAIT!

.....

KREAAAK

キィィィ

!?

TWITCH

I-I GUESS SO...

I GUESS WE'LL JUST HAVE TO EXPLAIN LATER.

WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO...?

WELL, THAT WAS CERTAINLY AN ANNOYING THING TO BE SEEN DOING...

GLOOM

OH—

BLUSH

ANYWAY, SHOULD WE EAT?

HUH?

...I'LL GIVE YOU HALF OF MINE.

...I GUESS...

ACTUALLY, ASAKURA-SAN MADE MY LUNCH TODAY...

AW GEEZ. WELL...

FWIP

WHAT?

EVEN FOR GOOD FRIENDS, THAT'S KINDA...

TWITCH

ビクビク

NO, NOW THE MOOD'S REALLY BAD!

UM, UM!

UH, YEAH, I GUESS SO! SORRY!

TH-THAT HURDLE'S TOO HIGH!!

THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A LOWER HURDLE!?

WIBBLE

...JUST FEED ME A FEW BITES!

:3°3

QUIVER

SINCE SPLITTING YOUR WHOLE LUNCH WITH ME IS A BIT MUCH...

:3°3

QUIVER

AH—

TWITCH

HERE, SAY "AHH"—

WELL, I GUESS IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH THAT...

HMM...

MM.

HERE'S YOUR LUNCH!

I KNOW YOU DON'T HAVE THE NERVE TO FLIRT LIKE THAT!

AH-HA-HA-HA, JUST KIDDING!

ASAKURA, TOTALLY FREAKED OUT.

IS THIS FOR REAL!?

MM!?

SAY "AHHH"!
SUDDENLY, NAGATO THE YOUNG WIFE!

OFF
YOU GO,
DARLING!

THE LIT-ERATURE CLUB, AFTER SCHOOL.

RIGHT.

SO THAT'S WHY I'VE DECIDED ON A HOT SPRING FOR OUR CLUB TRIP.

Epilogue 20>> Travel Guide

...

BLINK

ピク

HEH, TRUE.

DON'T WORRY. I'VE MADE ALL THE PREPA-RATIONS.

HEY-

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "THAT'S WHY"? YOU DIDN'T GIVE ANY EXPLANATION AT ALL.

HERE, YUKI. PASS THESE OUT.

OKAY.

OH, LIKE A GUIDEBOOK.

North High Literature Club and Kouyouen Academy Combined Field Trip

ITINERARY

NORTH HIGH LITERATURE CLUB AND KOUYOUEN ACADEMY COMBINED FIELD TRIP...

HOT SPRINGS... SOUNDS LIKE FUN!

EVEN OUR DESIGNATED ROUTE IS GIVEN IN DETAIL.

THIS LOOKS PRETTY WELL THOUGHT-OUT, ACTUALLY.

HUH?

HMM?

THE RATE ON THIS HOT SPRINGS INN SEEMS TOO LOW...

HEY, SUZUMIYA-SAN, ABOUT THIS HERE...

POINT

ピッ

MY PARENTS ARE WORKING ABROAD, SO IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I WENT ON A REAL TRIP.

HMM?

APPARENTLY THEY HAVE A ROOM RESERVED THERE ALL YEAR.

BUT TSURUYA SAID IF WE WENT THERE, SHE'D MAKE IT CHEAP FOR US.

BEARS AND STUFF SHOW UP SOMETIMES. IT'S AN AWESOME PLACE!

WE USE IT FOR TRAINING AND STUFF.

IT WAS ORIGINALLY MORE THAN THAT.

OH, THAT?

I'M THINKING NOT SO MUCH.

I'LL HAVE TO THANK HER AGAIN.

BUT I FEEL BAD LETTING HER HELP US OUT SO MUCH.

MM... I GUESS SHE DID SAY THAT OVER CHRIST-MAS.

SO THIS IS A GUIDEBOOK, RIGHT?

WHAT?

...HEY, HARUHI?

I ALREADY SAID "THANKS."

NO? WHY NOT?

IT'S NICE THAT YOU MADE ALL THE TRAVEL PLANS SO EASY TO UNDERSTAND, BUT...

YOU'VE ALSO WRITTEN OUR POST-TRIP IMPRESSIONS.

HUH? MINE ARE HERE TOO...

EVERY-BODY'S ARE...

OH? INDEED.

HEH HEH HEH.

HEH.

WHA— WHAT THE HECK!?

I NEVER SAID IT WAS A GUIDEBOOK, DID I?

...IS THE POST-TRIP REPORT WE'LL SUBMIT TO THE SCHOOL!

OF COURSE! DID YOU THINK WE COULD GET AWAY WITH JUST SAYING...

...'WE WENT ON A TRIP?'

NAN!

THIS ...

THIS IS THE TRUE OBJECTIVE OF OUR FIELD TRIP!

COMPILED, THEY STAND AS PROOF OF OUR MATURITY!

WE MUST PUT OUR TRAVEL THOUGHTS, THE FRUITS OF OUR JOURNEY, DOWN IN WRITING!

THE LITERATURE CLUB MUST BE LITERARY!

...BUT SHOULDN'T WE HAVE DONE THIS TOGETHER, AFTER THE TRIP?

NOT THAT I REALLY CARE...

AN IDIOT! THERE'S AN IDIOT IN OUR MIDST!

DOING EVERYBODY'S AHEAD OF TIME WAS PRETTY HARD, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW.

SO I WENT AHEAD AND WROTE THEM ALL MYSELF.

THAT'S WHAT I TOLD THE SCHOOL TO GET PERMISSION.

YOU JUST DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?

BOOM

IT'S BETTER TO GET IT OUT OF THE WAY FIRST!

IT SUCKS IF YOU HAVE TO DO IT ALL AT THE END OF THE VACATION!

IT'S LIKE SUMMER HOMEWORK.

HA HA.

PERHAPS, BUT ISN'T THIS PART OF HER CHARM?

COULDN'T SHE APPLY THIS MOTIVATION TO SOME BETTER CAUSE?

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE FUN! SO MUCH THAT WE'LL NEVER FORGET IT!

WHAT I'M SAYING IS THIS!

...EVEN SO, YOU'VE GOT TO SAY SOMETHING BEFORE YOU DO THIS KIND OF THING.

WE WOULD'VE HELPED.

HMPH...IT'S TRUE THAT WE'RE THE LITERATURE CLUB IN NAME ONLY, BUT...

STILL, YOU REALLY...

OH?

I WOULD'VE. AND AFTER I'D BEEN FURIOUS, I WOULD'VE HELPED YOU.

OH? I THOUGHT YOU'D BE ANGRY, RYOUKO.

...AND I DIDN'T HELP AT ALL. I'M SO SORRY.

YOU DID ALL OF THIS...

I DID ALL OF THIS—

GEEZ, YUKI, YOU'RE SO SLOW.

I MEAN, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

PAT

I DID IT BECAUSE I WANTED TO, OBVIOUSLY!

HEY!

THAT'S THE KIND OF PERSON SUZUMIYA-SAN, IS, SO YOU CAN'T TAKE HER TOO SERIOUSLY.

...IF SHE DIDN'T WANT TO DO IT HERSELF.

THAT'S RIGHT, NAGATO. SHE'S THE KIND OF PERSON THAT'D JUST FOIST A JOB ON US...

...PLEASE READ OVER EACH OF YOUR REACTIONS...

...SO THAT IF A TEACHER ASKS YOU ABOUT THE TRIP, YOU'LL KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

SO ANYWAY...

HOW?

SMAK

GEEZ.

I'LL COME TOO. I NEED TO THANK TSURUYA-SAN.

STAND

AND WITH THAT, I'M OFF...

...TO GIVE TSURUYA-SAN AND ASAHINA-SAN THEIR COPIES.

OH!

SO WE'RE OFF!

THAT'S FOR THE BEST. IT'D BE WEIRD IF WE ALL SHOWED UP WHILE SHE'S DOING HER CLUB ACTIVITIES.

I'LL BE OUR REPRE-SENTATIVE.

UH, SO I'M THE ONLY ONE NOT GOING?

OH, IN THAT CASE, I'LL COME TOO.

HUH? HE WAS ACTUALLY FEEDING HER BITES? REALLY?

SINCE WHEN DO THEY HAVE THAT KIND OF RELATION-SHIP?

TUP

TUP

TRMBL

"Ji-

HUG-GING !?

AND BEFORE THAT THEY WERE *HUGGING.*

YEAH...

THE PROBLEM IS HIM FEEDING HER A BITE.

ASA

YEAH, I GUESS.

HA

OH, SO LIKE ALWAYS, THEN.

ASA

IT'S THEM WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, SO THERE'S PROBABLY AN 80% CHANCE IT WAS ALL AN ACCIDENT.

MMM... WHETHER IT'S HEALTHY OR NOT...

...IT'S THE FEEDING PART THAT'S LIKE...

ISN'T HUGGING A LITTLE HEALTHIER THAN PUSHING HER DOWN OR SOMETHING?

AH.

SHE'S NOT JUST FREEZING UP OR ACTING TOTALLY DUMB ANYMORE...

...THAT CAN'T HAPPEN BY ACCIDENT, YOU KNOW?

IT'S A FIELD TRIP IN NAME ONLY. REALLY IT'S JUST A VACATION.

AND NOW THAT THERE'S THIS TENSION BETWEEN THEM...

MM. I WONDER IF THE FIELD TRIP WILL GO WELL...

YOU SURE REVISED THAT STATE-MENT FAST.

WELL, NO, I WOULD.

IF THEY WERE ACTUALLY DATING, I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

...WHAT IF IT'S ENOUGH TO GET THEM TO CROSS THE LINE!?

OR THEY'LL MISTAKENLY WIND UP GOING TO LOOK AT THE STARS!

WOULD THAT BE A MIS-TAKE?

UH, EVEN I KNOW TO ARRANGE FOR SEPARATE ROOMS FOR GIRLS AND BOYS.

OR MAYBE THEY'LL ACCIDEN-TALLY GET IN THE SAME FUTON!

HOW IS THAT A MISTAKE?

SINCE IT'S THOSE TWO, THEY COULD EASILY WIND UP IN THE MIXED BATHS TOGETHER BY MISTAKE.

...SHOULD YOU REALLY BE DOING ALL THIS FORE-SHADOWING?

HEY...

GLOOM

...A BUNCH OF ROMANTIC COMEDY CLICHÉS!

THOSE TWO JUST CAN'T HELP LIVING OUT...

I JUST GOT A LITTLE WORKED UP.

IT'S OKAY.

WHOA...

FLASH

I JUST NEED TO MAKE IT MY SECRET MISSION TO MAKE SURE THEY DON'T CROSS THE LINE!

HUH?

NOW THAT I'VE CALMED DOWN AND THOUGHT IT OVER, IT'S SIMPLE.

YOU'RE INCLUDING ME IN THIS!?

WE CAN MAKE SURE THEY MAINTAIN A NOBLE, PURE RELATION-SHIP.

WE CAN DO IT IF WE JOIN FORCES, YOU AND I.

HEY, RYOUKO?

YOU IMAGINED YOURSELF REALLY REGRETTING THIS AND STARTED CRYING BACK THERE, SO ARE YOU REALLY OKAY?

HA-HA, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

MURMUR

I'M JUST GOING TO WATCH THEM TO MAKE SURE NOTHING EXTREME HAPPENS.

I'M FINE. I MADE A BIG FUSS, BUT...

...I DON'T REALLY PLAN TO TRY TO BREAK THEM UP.

I GUESS I CAN'T TELL HER TO JUST LEAVE THEM ALONE.

...I GUESS THAT'S OKAY.

WELL...

WHAT A PAIN.
...OH WELL.
DATT
IT'LL BE AN INTERESTING TRIP. ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

HUH? WHERE'S RYOUKO?

HERE'S YOUR TICKET.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

A FEW DAYS LATER, THE FIRST DAY OF GOLDEN WEEK.

YUKI!!

HEEEY!

AND ANTI-GERM WIPES.

OH, SNACKS!

THERE YOU ARE. YOU WENT TO THE CONVENIENCE STORE?

HERE I AM...

OH, TSURUYA-SAN'S HERE TOO.

HA

NO, YOU'RE FINE! KYON'S RUNNING LATE, SO...

SORRY! DID WE KEEP YOU WAITING?

MI

GUH...TO WHAT?

NO EXCUSES! AS PUNISHMENT, YOU HAVE TO TREAT US.

Epilogue 21>>

Seating Order

HE'S LATE.

LIKE I SAID— IT TOOK ME A WHILE TO SHAKE OFF MY LITTLE SISTER.

HOPE YOU BROUGHT COFFEE MONEY!

I PICKED THE MEETING TIME SO WE'D BE OKAY EVEN WITH A SLOW-POKE LIKE YOU.

WE'VE GOT TIME BEFORE THE TRAIN ARRIVES, SO LET'S HAVE TEA AT A CAFÉ.

OKAY, EVERYBODY, WE'RE ALL GOING TO THE CAFÉ! KYON'S TREAT!

IF YOU PLANNED THAT FAR AHEAD, JUST LET ME OFF THE HOOK!

HA-HA, THAT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.

AND ANOTHER THING .. KOFF...THE REASON I CAME HERE IS...

TALK AFTER YOU'VE GOTTEN AHOLD OF YOUR-SELF.

WELL, YEAH...

HOT! KOFF! KOFF...!

GULP

ARE YOU OKAY NOW?

YEAH.

WHEW

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK IS MOST IMPORTANT ON A LONG TRAIN TRIP?

?

AND TO GET THERE, WE'LL BE SPENDING A DECENT AMOUNT OF TIME ON THE TRAIN.

?

...IS THAT THE PLACE WE'RE GOING IS UP IN THE MOUNTAINS.

ANYWAY, THE REASON WE CAME HERE...

THERE'S A LOT OF DIFFERENT WAYS TO ARRANGE WHO SITS NEXT TO WHOM...

SEATS.

THERE-FORE—

HERE!

TIME TO DRAW LOTS!

AH, THAT MEANS—

BENCH SEATS...

EVERY-BODY HAS TO PICK ONE!

YUP.

SO THERE ARE DIFFERENT COLORS?

W-WE COULD WIND UP SITTING TOGETHER ...!?

...A VALUABLE CHANCE!

...THIS SIMPLE GAME REPRE-SENTS...

FOR A MAIDEN IN LOVE...

LOOKS LIKE NAGATO-SAN'S FIGURED IT OUT.

IF SHE CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SUCH A PERFECT SITUATION...

BEING IN PHYSICAL CONTACT OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME...

...IT COULD DRASTICALLY AFFECT LATER DEVELOPMENTS.

OKAY!

WHF

C'MON, YOU TOO, YUKI!

I WASN'T—!

WHAT? AIMING? N-NO!

THAT'S RIGHT, THERE'S NO POINT IN AIMING!

I GUESS WHEN YOU DECIDE BY LOTTERY, YOU DON'T GET TO CHOOSE...

...OR THAT WE'D BE ABLE TO TALK ABOUT ALL KINDS OF STUFF...

...OR HOW OUR SHOULDERS MIGHT TOUCH!

KRUNCH KRUNCH KRUNCH

I WASN'T THINKING IT WOULD BE NICE TO SIT NEXT TO HIM...

NAGATO, NAGATO—

EATING HER FEELINGS!?

I WASN'T THINKING ABOUT THAT AT ALL!

NA

AHH...

S-
SURE...

CAN I HAVE SOME OF THOSE?

THANKS.

TUD
ぽん

HERE.

THEY WOUND UP NEXT TO EACH OTHER ANYWAY.

HOW ABOUT THAT.

WHEW.

"
WHUMP

HERE WE ARE!

WHEW, I'M TIRED!

ACCORD-ING TO THE SCHEDULE ...

DID YOU EVEN READ THE ITINERARY?

...BUT WHERE TO NEXT? THE INN?

SO IT'S GREAT WE'RE HERE AND ALL...

THE INN'S WAY UP IN THE MOUNTAINS, SO NEXT UP IS A LITTLE ROAD TRIP!

WHAAAAT!?

TING

Epilogue 22>>

Sightseeing

LET'S WANDER AROUND A LITTLE.

WE HAVE SOME TIME BEFORE THE SHUTTLE GETS HERE.

I KNEW, BUT I SURE DIDN'T WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT AGAIN.

WAIT, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO KNOW THAT.

MORE TRAVEL-ING?

THERE'S A TEMPLE. A BIG ONE.

LET'S PUT IT IN SOME COIN LOCKERS.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH THE LUGGAGE?

WHAT'S IN THE AREA?

SUPPOSEDLY IF YOU ENTER A CERTAIN AREA, YOU CAN GAIN SPECIAL POWERS.

WHAT'S THAT? SOME KIND OF SECRET MERIDIAN LINE?

IT'S SUPPOSEDLY A "POWER SPOT."

...BUT I GUESS IT'S THE DONE THING...

MM, THAT'S A LITTLE CONVEN-TIONAL...

UNBELIEV-ABLE.

I'D LIKE TO SEE THE CHUMPS THAT BELIEVE THAT NONSENSE.

WHAT, YOU CAN GET SUPER-POWERS JUST BY STANDING THERE?

INDEED, LET'S.

OBVIOUSLY I DON'T BELIEVE A WORD OF IT.

OKAY, KOIZUMI-KUN, LET'S GO SEE THE CHUMPS!

GIVE IT UP. THAT'S JUST HOW SHE IS. AND KOIZUMI WILL NEVER GO AGAINST ANYTHING SHE SAYS.

AND AFTER SHE SAID WE SHOULD STICK TOGETHER TOO...

HOW CAN SHE JUST CHARGE OFF BY HERSELF TO A PLACE SHE'S NEVER EVEN SEEN?

W-WAIT, SUZUMIYA-SAN!

OKAY, GUYS, WE'RE HEADING OUT!

DASH

I SUPPOSE SO.

WHEN THE TIME COMES, WE'LL JUST GIVE HER A CALL.

DON'T WORRY, I KNOW WHERE THEY'RE GOING.

RESTAURANTS TOO. WANT TO EAT SOME-THING?

NO KIDDING.

WOW.

THERE ARE QUITE A FEW SHOPS.

CURTAIN: LIMITED EDITION SPECIAL

LOOKS LIKE THERE ARE LOTS OF OTHER TASTY THINGS, BUT SURE, WHY NOT.

OH, I KNOW, I'LL SPLIT SOMETHING WITH NAGATO-SAN.

TRUE.

I ATE SO MANY SNACKS ON THE TRAIN, THOUGH...

HERE Y'GO.

OH, AND THAT ONE TOO.

ONE OF THOSE, AND ONE OF THOSE, AND THAT ONE THERE, PLEASE.

HEY, NAGATO-SAN—

?

WHAT?

OH, NOTHING.

?

YEAH, AT LEAST ENOUGH FOR MY FAMILY.

KYON-KUN, WANT TO GET SOME SOUVENIRS TO TAKE BACK?

IT'LL JUST BE MORE STUFF TO DRAG AROUND NOW. WHY NOT DECIDE LATER?

GOOD POINT.

HMM, I DUNNO, MY PARENTS ARE ABROAD AND ALL...

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

THIS IS NOTHIN'!

I'VE GOT SOCIAL OBLIGATIONS TO TAKE CARE OF!

THAT LOOKS REALLY HEAVY!

WOW, SO MANY!

I GUESS THERE'S DEMAND.

THEY SELL THESE EVERY-WHERE.

AH!

AND MIKURU'S GOTTEN SUCKERED INTO BUYIN' SOMETHING WEIRD AGAIN...

IT WAS ON SPECIAL WITH THE PURCHASE OF A FACIAL ROLLER!

WOW, COOL!

UH, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

BOOF

CAN'T YOU TELL?

I'M BASKING IN POWER, OBVI-OUSLY.

I WAS SURPRISED WHEN I HEARD. APPARENTLY IF YOU STAND IN THIS SMOKE, YOU GET A BOOST TO YOUR PHYSICAL STRENGTH.

OH, SO THAT'S WHAT A POWER SPOT IS.

WHOA!?

WHUFF

THERE'S ONLY SO LONG YOU CAN STAND IN THE SMOKE....

BUT YOU CAN ONLY BURN THOSE INCENSE STICKS ONCE, RIGHT?

御線香

50円

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT PHYSICAL STRENGTH ...

BUT I'VE DEFINITELY HEARD OF SMOKE WITH BENEFICIAL PROPERTIES.

ケホ KOFF

ケホ KOFF

ケホ KOFF

SIGN: INCENSE STICKS

THEREBY PROLONG-ING MY SMOKE EXPOSURE!

HE TOSSES OUT A NEW INCENSE STICK EVERY MINUTE!

I'VE GOT A SYSTEM WITH KOI-ZUMI!

DON'T WORRY! I'VE THOUGHT OF THAT!

WAIT! I'VE ONLY STRENGTH-ENED MY RIGHT BICEP SO FAR!

STOP IT! STOP IT THIS IN-STANT!

I KNEW THERE WAS TOO MUCH SMOKE!

THAT'S NOT ALLOWED!

NO, LET'S JUST PRETEND WE DON'T KNOW THEM.

SHOULD WE GO TOO?

WELL, NOW. THAT LOOKS KINDA INTER-ESTING.

TUP TUP TUP

AH HA HA.

WE'LL JUST VISIT THE SHRINE LIKE NORMAL PEOPLE.

LIKE, WHO YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT AND WHAT YOU WANT THEM TO DO.

...YOU HAVE TO BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE.

...THAT WHEN YOU PRAY TO THE GODS...

COME TO THINK OF IT, I HEARD ON TV...

HUH?

ALTHOUGH MAYBE THAT DEPENDS ON THE SHRINE?

WHEN YOU PRAY TO THE GODS...

...AND...

WHO YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT...

...WHAT YOU WANT THEM TO DO...

NAGATO, ASAHINA-SAN, I'LL GO ON AHEAD.

AW GEEZ.

FLINCH

ビク…!

HEY, KYON-KUN! COME DOWN HERE WITH US! LET'S ALL DO THIS TOGETHER! C'MON!

SORRY, KYON-KUN. AND THANKS, TSURUYA-SAN.

O-OKAY.

SHALL WE TAKE A LOOK?

THEY'RE SELLING CHARMS OVER THERE.

OH...

YES.

DID YOU MAKE YOUR WISH?

:3.

WHEW

I'LL BE TAKING ENTRANCE EXAMS NEXT YEAR, SO MAYBE I SHOULD GET ONE FOR LUCK WITH MY STUDIES.

THERE ARE SO MANY!

WOW!

HERE, GET THIS ONE.

...MAYBE ONE FOR GOOD HEALTH.

...OKAY, I'LL GET ONE TOO. LET'S SEE...

I GUESS, BUT...

COME ON! IF YOU BUY IT NOW, NO ONE WILL SEE!

NO... I COULDN'T.

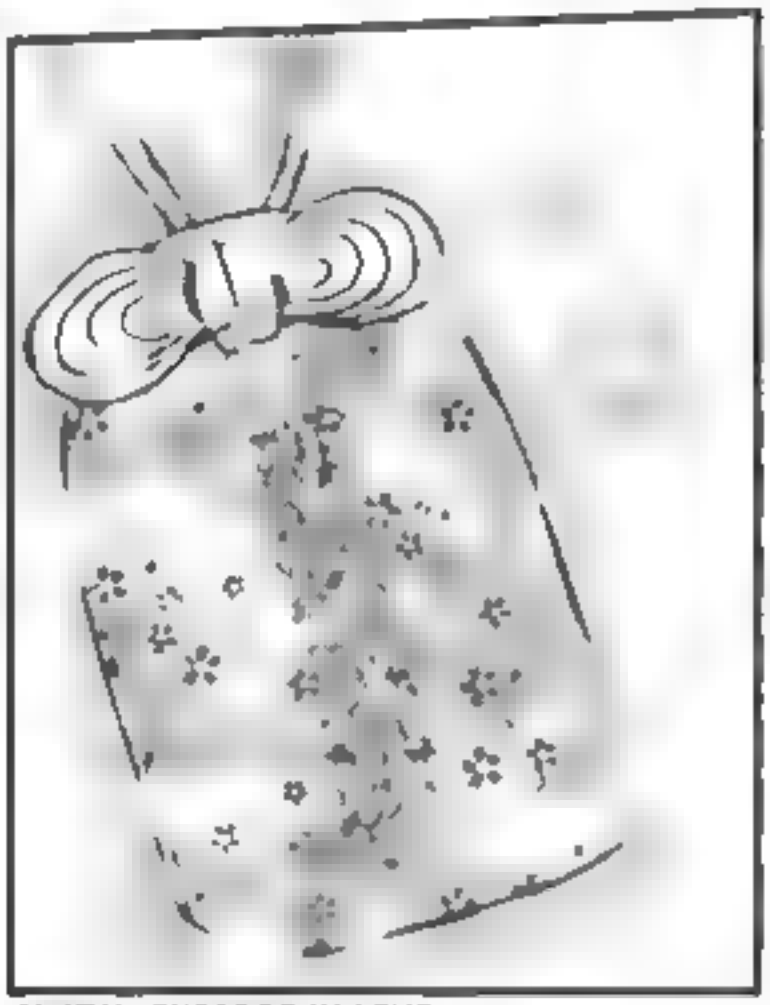
BWUH!

NOW NO ONE WILL SEE!

OKAY!

ぱちっ

BLINK



WHAT DID YOU EXPECT!?

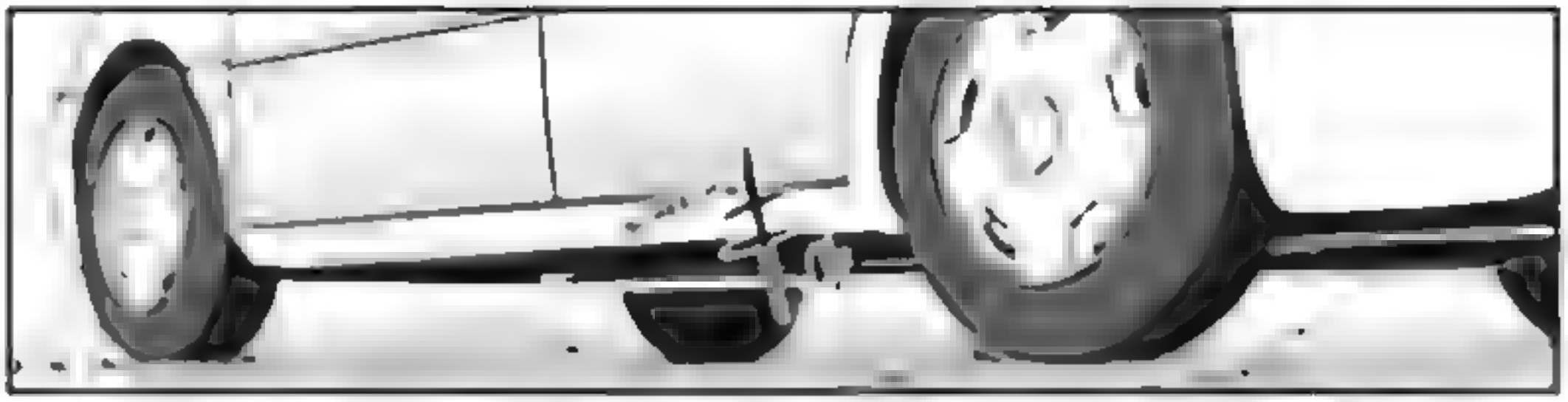
ALIGH

GO! SMOKY!

NYA-HA-HA, WE'RE ALMOST THERE! YOU CAN TAKE A BATH AS SOON AS WE GET TO THE INN!

QUIET DOWN!

I GOTTA GET INTO THE BATHS, QUICK!



...Hot Springs
HERE WE ARE!

TO THE HOT SPRINGS!
GOOD PLAN!
OUR ROOMS,
RIGHT IN.
I CAN FINALLY GET THE SAKE OUT
BATH-TIME, BATH-TIME!

120

PWISH

I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER!

MMMM!

SSSHHHH

WOW!

IT'S SUCH A BIG BATH!

JUST WALK SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY, AND YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

YOU'RE FINE, SEE? I'LL HOLD YOUR HAND.

WAAH...

TOTTER

DO CONTACTS NOT GET FOGGY?

IT MUST BE TOUGH, THOUGH. YOU SHOULD TRY CONTACTS.

SIGH

なぁ

ALTHOUGH YOU'D PROBABLY PLAY VIDEO GAMES AND THEN FALL ASLEEP WITH-OUT TAKING THEM OUT...

YOU'D BE SO MUCH CUTER WITHOUT GLASSES.

SQUEAK

HUH? OH, TH-THAT'S OKAY, THEY SEEM KINDA SCARY.

SQUEAK

HMM, I'M NOT SURE. YOU SHOULD ASK SOMEONE WHO WEARS THEM.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!

I'M SORRY... WITHOUT MY GLASSES I JUST CAN'T SEE WHERE MY FEET ARE...

OH, BE QUIET.

BLUB BLUB

YOU SOUND LIKE AN OLD GRANNY!

ちゃぽーん SPLISSSH

AHHH...

IT'S LIKE HEAVEN...

HEY, WHERE DID ASAHINA-SENPAI GO?

CLATTER CLATTER ガラ

SEE? ガラ

...SHE'LL PROBABLY BE HERE SOON.

MIKURU TAKES HER TIME, SO...

HEE-HEE-HEE, SORRY!

YEAH YOU ARE, MIKURU!

SORRY!

I'M LATE!

CHEER

..SHE'S HUGE!

I THOUGHT SHE WAS PRETTY BIG BEFORE, BUT WITHOUT HER CLOTHES...

OOH, IT LOOKS SO NICE AND WARM...

PERHAPS I SHOULD MASSAGE MINE TOO.

OH? ISN'T IT OBVIOUS !?

WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING—?

ALL THAT MASSAGING PAID OFF!

I KNEW MY EYES HADN'T DECEIVED ■■

INCRED-IBLE, MIKURU-CHAN!

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TSU
HA
BY THE WAY-

ON A CLUB TRIP, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE FUN EVEN WHILE YOU'RE ASLEEP!

BUT SLEEPING IS NOT ALLOWED!

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO AFTER DINNER?

ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR?

PLISH

YES! THAT'S IT!

WHAT ABOUT A CARD GAME? I DIDN'T BRING A DECK OF CARDS, BUT...

HMM, MAYBE NOT.

WELL, THE INN HAS A KARAOKE PLACE THAT MOSTLY PLAYS ENKA.

...WE SHALL PROCEED DIRECTLY TO THE BOYS' ROOM!

KOIZUMI-KUN WILL DEFINITELY HAVE A DECK.

COVER YOUR-SELF!

SO! THAT DECIDES OUR AFTER-DINNER SCHEDULE.

IMME-DIATELY AFTER WE EAT...

DADUM

HAVE A LITTLE MODESTY, SUZUMIYA-SAN!

FEELS SO NICE...

HA-HA-HA! WE'RE ALL GIRLS HERE, SO WHO CARES?

JUST LEAVE IT. IF THEY KNEW WE COULD HEAR THEM, IT'D BE EVEN MORE OF A PAIN.

WELL, YOU HEARD THE LADIES.

FSSSSH

.....

...ASAHINA'S VOICE COMES THROUGH LOUD AND CLEAR, YOU KNOW.

GEEZ, HARUHI...

AFTER DINNER.

Epilogue 24>> After Dinner

ガラッ

HERE WE ARE!

WE'RE COMIN' IN!

TSU-RUYA-SAN'S WITH HER.

OH, ASAHINA-SAN WAS PRETTY TIRED, SO SHE'S RESTING IN THE ROOM.

WHERE'RE ASAHINA-SAN AND THE OTHERS?

HMM?

.....

AH! SHHHH!

THE MOST TIRING PART FOR HER WAS THE BATH, THOUGH.

ALL RIGHT, WE'VE GOT THE CARDS, SO LET'S DO THIS!

I FOUND THE CARDS. HERE YOU GO.

YAY! NICE ONE, KOIZUMI-KUN!

SHF

TRUMP

SUZUMIYA-SAN, QUIET DOWN. IT'S NIGHTTIME.

...OPEN FOR BUSI-NESS!

I NOW PRO-NOUNCE THE MID-NIGHT CARDS PARTY...

WHAM

ヒロイン

YEAH, HMM...

IT WOULD BE GOOD TO START WITH A GAME WHERE EVERYBODY KNOWS THE RULES.

ONE "YEAH" IS ENOUGH.

YEAH, YEAH, SO WHAT SHALL WE START WITH?

THAT'S ABOUT IT.

OLD MAID, SEVENS, AND CONCEN-TRATION...

FLIK

UM...

FWIP

WHAT GAMES DO YOU KNOW, NAGATO?

OLD MAID IT IS, THEN...

HNN...

JOKER

SHOOP

ヒョイ

ALSO—

WHY?

AW, C'MON, LET'S SKIP THOSE.

WHAT ABOUT PUNISH-MENT GAMES?

GRINN

FWISH

FWISH

THERE Y'GO.

IT'S NOT EXCITING UNLESS THERE'S A LITTLE RISK INVOLVED!

MMM...

SSHF

HONESTLY.

WHAT DO YOU THINK, NAGATO-SAN?

INCIDEN-TALLY...

...EX-TREME?

I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WE DIDN'T DO ANY-THING TOO...

"EXTREME," YOU SAY.

MM.

I WOULDN'T MIND KNOWING THAT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE EITHER.

DD

BA-BUMP

HUH!?

...WHEN YOU SAY "EXTREME," YUKI...

...WHAT SPECIFI-CALLY DO YOU MEAN?

FLIT

WOULD YOU TWO KNOCK IT OFF?

NAGATO'S FREAKING OUT.

SQUEEZE

AH, NO—

WHOEVER LOSES HAS TO GO OUT AND BUY DRINKS AND SNACKS.

...WHY NOT MAKE THE PUNISHMENT SHOPPING?

...IF WE'RE GONNA PLAY FOR A WHILE...

ANYWAY...

WHEW

RIGHT, THAT SETTLES IT!

...THAT WOULD BE A SUITABLE PUNISHMENT GAME.

SINCE THE NEAREST CONVENIENCE STORE IS A MODERATE WALK FROM HERE...

MM... DOESN'T HAVE MUCH IMPACT, BUT I GUESS WE DO NEED SNACKS...

THANK YOU.

ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET STARTED! KOIZUMI, DRAW A CARD!

SHE CASUALLY(?) ASKED FOR HELP, AND HE CASUALLY CAME TO HER AID.

HMM, THINGS SEEM TO BE NATURALLY PRO-GRESSING WELL.

IF THEY'RE WILLING TO ACT LIKE THIS IN FRONT OF OTHERS...

THOSE TWO ARE GETTING CLOSER.

...WHO KNOWS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN!

ASAKURA-SAN YOUR FACE IS SCARY!

RUMB-LE

RUMB-LE

...THEN IF THEY WERE TO WIND UP ALONE TOGETHER...

COULDN'T GET RID OF IT...

はうぅ

AWWW...

WAAH!

JOKER

HUH? REALLY?

I'LL GO TOO!

FINE!

WHAP

RIGHT, YUKI! YOU GOTTA GO SHOPPING!

OKAY... WELL... I'M OFF, THEN.

TUP

!?

WELL, I GUESS...

YEAH, BUT THERE'S NO WAY I'M LETTING HER GO ALL THAT WAY ALONE AT NIGHT.

HMPH!

THERE'S NO POINT IN THE PUNISHMENT GAME IF YOU DO THAT.

HEY, WAIT A MINUTE.

OH, BUT—

WE DON'T NEED TO GET THAT MUCH FOOD SINCE WE ALREADY ATE DINNER.

SHFF

IF YOU COME TOO, ASAKURA, THEN IT REALLY WON'T BE A PUNISHMENT GAME.

IT'S OKAY, REALLY.

WHF

I'LL GO TOO, THEN!

I'LL FOLLOW THEM!

HMM...

WHAT GAME SHOULD WE PLAY?

THE THREE OF US WILL PLAY UNTIL THEY GET BACK.

YOU CAME RIGHT OUT AND SAID IT!

GLARE

...I'LL TAIL THEM.

IN OTHER WORDS...

HUH?

Y-
YEAH,
I'M
FINE.

YOU
OKAY?

WAH—

YEAH.

THERE
ISN'T MUCH
LIGHT HERE,
SO YOU'VE
GOTTA WATCH
YOUR STEP.

ㅎㅎ

AH—

HERE,
GIVE ME
YOUR
HAND.

ㅈ...!

NOW YOU WON'T FALL, RIGHT?

RIGHT.

CLACK

HEY! RYOUKO!

HUH? OH—

GASP

S- SORRY!

WHAT'RE YOU SPACING OUT FOR?

YUKI CAN'T DRAW A CARD.

I GOT SO CAUGHT UP IN MY THOUGHTS THAT I DIDN'T REALIZE WHAT WAS GOING ON AROUND ME... HOW EMBAR-RASSING...

GEEZ, I REALLY FREAKED MYSELF OUT...

AAAUGH...

TINGGG

OH.

I GOT A WHOLE SET! I'M OUT!

BUT IF NAGATO-SAN LOSES, THAT COULD DEFINITELY HAPPEN...

NAH—

OKAY! SO!

GUESS I GOT A LITTLE OVER-ANXIOUS...

HA HA...

RYOUKO LOST, SO SHE'S GOTTA GO SHOPPING!

HUH?

22:00

CLATTER

HEYA!

SSH

COLA

OH HEY.

GOOD EVENING!

MIKURU'S ALL BETTER NOW, SO WE'RE HERE TO PLAY!

AS FOR THE THE REST, WELL...

HE HAS TO DO FIFTY SQUATS AS A PUNISHMENT GAME.

KOIZUMI WENT BACK INTO THE BATH.

HUH? IT'S JUST YOU TWO?

POINT 01

AW, THEY'RE ALL TIRED OUT.

...THEY'RE SLEEPING RIGHT THERE.

SO, YOU GUYS WANNA KNOW SOME-THING GOOD?

HMM? ♪ WELL, NOTHIN' WRONG WITH THAT!

HA-HA, WHEN YOU SAY IT ALOUD, IT SOUNDS SO LONELY.

SO YOU TWO HAVE JUST BEEN PLAYING CONCEN-TRATION?

AND HARU-NYAN RAN AROUND LIKE SHE NORMALLY DOES, SO IT'S NO SURPRISE SHE'S OUT TOO, HUH?

ASAKURA-SAN IS A VERY REGIMENTED PERSON, SO SHE ALWAYS SLEEPS ABOUT THIS MUCH.

SPACED OUT!

IN THE HILLS BEHIND THIS INN, IF YOU GO UP A LITTLE WAYS...

...THERE'S A CLEARING WITH A GREAT VIEW OF THE STARS. YOU SHOULD GO UP AND HAVE A LOOK.

...WITH THESE TWO LIKE THIS, MAYBE NOT. WE'LL WATCH 'EM FOR YOU, OKAY?

RUSSSTLE

I FIGURED WE'D ALL GO TOGETHER, BUT...

GO ON!

Epilogue 25>> Reaching Out

HAAH...

HAAH...

HAAH.

HAAH...

NAGA-TO...

...YOU OKAY?

BZZZT

OW...

HUFF... HNN...

Y-YEAH...

HA HA...

I THINK I MIGHT GET IN THE BATH AGAIN WHEN WE GET BACK...

STILL...

...IT'S FARTHER AND STEEPER THAN I THOUGHT...

YEAH...

TJPP

ARE YOU HURT?

NO, I'M FINE.

MMM, YEAH...

HOP

HOP

IT'S REALLY JUST A TEENSY WALK FROM HERE!

I GUESS IT'S MY FAULT FOR BELIEVING TSURUYA-SAN WHEN SHE SAID "TEENSY."

GRAB 7

AH-HA-HA...

IT SURE IS EASY TO LOSE YOUR FOOTING, WALKING AT NIGHT.

?

HAAH...

MAYBE, JUST TO BE CARE-FUL...

...WE SHOULD HOLD HANDS?

...GIVE UP AND HEAD BACK DOWN?

EITHER THAT, OR...

TWITCH

TWITCH

TUP

TUP

...IT WOULD BE JUST AS TIRING TO WALK ALL THE WAY BACK...SO SINCE WE'VE COME ALL THIS WAY, WE MIGHT AS WELL KEEP GOING... I THINK.

EVEN IF WE TURNED AROUND NOW...

わた
FIDGET
わた
FIDGET

NO—

AH—

Y—

YEAH.

BLUSH

RIGHT, WE'LL GO A LITTLE FARTHER.

YEAH, WE DID COME ALL THIS WAY.

SHP

2SH

HERE.

YOUR HAND.

HMM? THAT DOESN'T BOTHER ME.

OH, B-B-BUT MY HAND'S ALL SWEATY FROM THE WALKING—

HAPPENS TO EVERYBODY WHEN THEY GET TIRED.

I CAN'T BE TOO SELF-CONSCIOUS...

U

.....

STEP 17

STEP 17

I WAS HAVING A BAD DREAM THE WHOLE TIME, SO...

RUB

RUB

YOU'RE AWFULLY ENERGETIC FOR HAVING JUST GOTTEN UP...

AW, C'MON! YOU GUYS GOTTA ACTUALLY HOLD HANDS!

POKE

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "WE"? I'M JUST HERE TO LOOK AT THE STARS.

WE CAN'T SLEEP!

WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? WE'RE THE "FOLLOW-NAGATO-FOR-HER-OWN-GOOD ASSOCIA-TION"!

I WISH SOMEONE WOULD'VE WOKEN ME UP, ACTUALLY.

STILL, ISN'T CLIMBING A MOUNTAIN RIGHT AWAY A LITTLE HARSH?

BUT SINCE THE STARGAZING GROUP OF TSURUYA-SAN AND MIKURU-CHAN KONKED OUT...

...I SUPPOSE I'LL SETTLE FOR A ROLE AS "UNWILLING COHORT."

HMPH

QUIVER

QUIVER

ABOUT THOSE TWO, RYOUKO...

BY THE WAY...

WHAT IS IT?

...

WHAT-EVER! TIME TO MOVE TO THE NEXT PATCH OF COVER!

WSH

BUT, I MEAN, ISN'T THAT UP TO THEM?

I MIGHT BE ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE TO THIS, BUT NOBODY LIKES OTHER PEOPLE TELLING THEM WHAT TO DO.

WHFF

YOU'RE TELLING THEM TO HOLD HANDS, SO YOU MUST NOT MIND THEM GETTING TOGETHER.

YET YOU DON'T WANT THEM TO CROSS THE LINE.

TWITCH

WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU FEEL MORE AT EASE ABOUT THEM?

MMM...

.....

AND THAT'S WHY I'M NOT TRYING TO PICK ON YOU.

I'M ASKING YOU AN HONEST QUESTION.

...BUT THE MORE THE DISTANCE BETWEEN NAGATO-SAN AND KYON-KUN CLOSES...

BUT...

...I'D BE HAPPY.

IF THEY GOT TOGETHER... YEAH...

NHSSH

ｔｏｏ

...THE MORE IT FEELS LIKE THEY'RE MOVING FURTHER FROM ME.

SQUEEZE

AND IT'S JUST... I HATE IT. IT'S LONELY.

SHF

.....

RYOUKO...

I KNOW, I KNOW. I'M NOT PROTECTING ANYONE. IT'S PURE JEALOUSY.

YOU'RE HORRIBLE!

SMACK

YEAH, THAT'S REALLY DUMB!

YEAH, BUT...I'M TALKING ABOUT WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN NEXT.

IT'S LIKE WORRYING ABOUT A TYPHOON WHEN YOU SEE A FEW CLOUDS.

...FROM THE OUTSIDE IT'S LIKE, YOU GUYS GET ALONG SO WELL, WHAT ARE YOU EVEN WORRYING ABOUT?

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO SAY SOMETHING KIND AND COMFORTING TO ME JUST NOW!

I KNOW, BUT...

SHOCK

LIKE I SAID...

IF SHE STARTS GOING OUT WITH KYON-KUN, THEN...

...I'M SURE...

FIDGET

I GUARANTEE IT—AND YOU CAN'T GO WRONG TRUSTING A HARUHI GUARANTEE.

BAP BUMP

...WHATEVER HAPPENS NEXT...

...EVEN IF YOU HAVE A FIGHT, YOUR FRIENDSHIP IS MORE THAN STRONG ENOUGH TO HANDLE IT.

GIGGLE

HEH HEH, I SEE.

HUMP

HMPH!

YOUR GUARANTEE MAKES ME EVEN MORE NER-VOUS!

...SO THANK YOU...

BUT THAT WAS A NICE THING TO SAY...

TWITCH

HONESTLY, THOUGH...

WH- WHAT?

OH, REALLY?

YOU DON'T NEED TO THANK ME.

ALL I DID WAS MAKE FUN OF YOU.

HMPH

YOU'RE CERTAINLY NOT PULLING ANY PUNCHES.

WHAT'S IT CALLED? "MOTHERLY CONCERN"?

BUT YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A MOTHER-IN-LAW ALREADY, SO THAT BEHAVIOR'S NOT TOO FAR OFF THE MARK, I GUESS.

YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN WORRY ABOUT THIS UNTIL THEY ACTUALLY START GOING OUT.

SIGH

WHAT ARE YOU, A CHILD!?

AAAAAUGH!

RAAAAAR!

I'LL HAVE TO FLIP OUT AND CHANGE THE SUB-JECT!

GLINT

RGH...

IF IT'S REALLY COME TO THIS...

WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?

I SWEAR, YOU TWO...

HEY, THAT'S DIRTY! YOU'RE PLAYING DIRTY!

RYOUKO SAID YOU GUYS WERE DEFINITELY FLIRTING AND DRAGGED ME ALONG TO SPY ON YOU!

THEY FOUND US!!

BA-DOOM

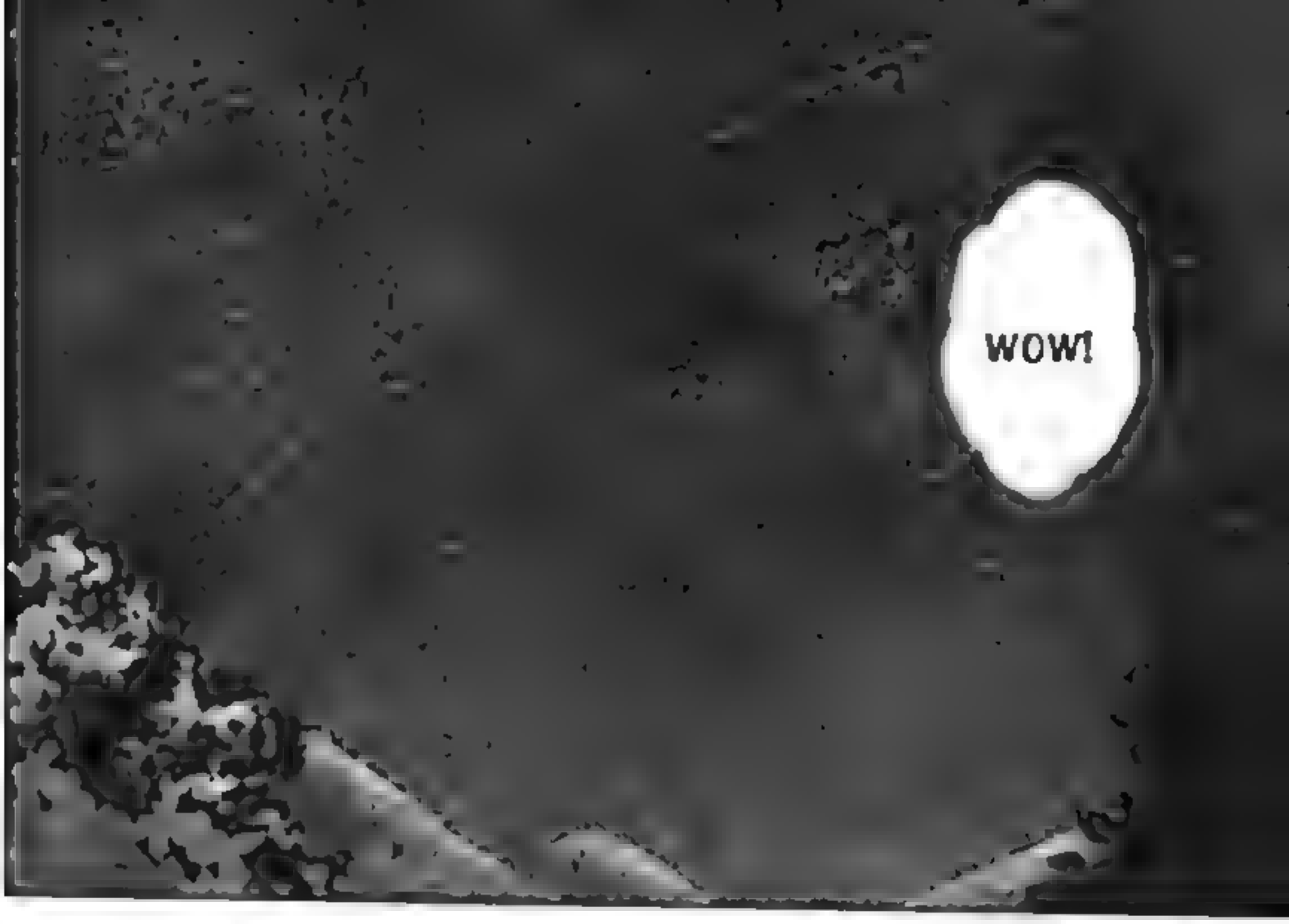
SHE'S AMA-ZING

IT'S JUST A LITTLE FARTHER...

HANG IN THERE!

TUP TUP

HUH? ARE YOU GUYS WORN OUT ALREADY?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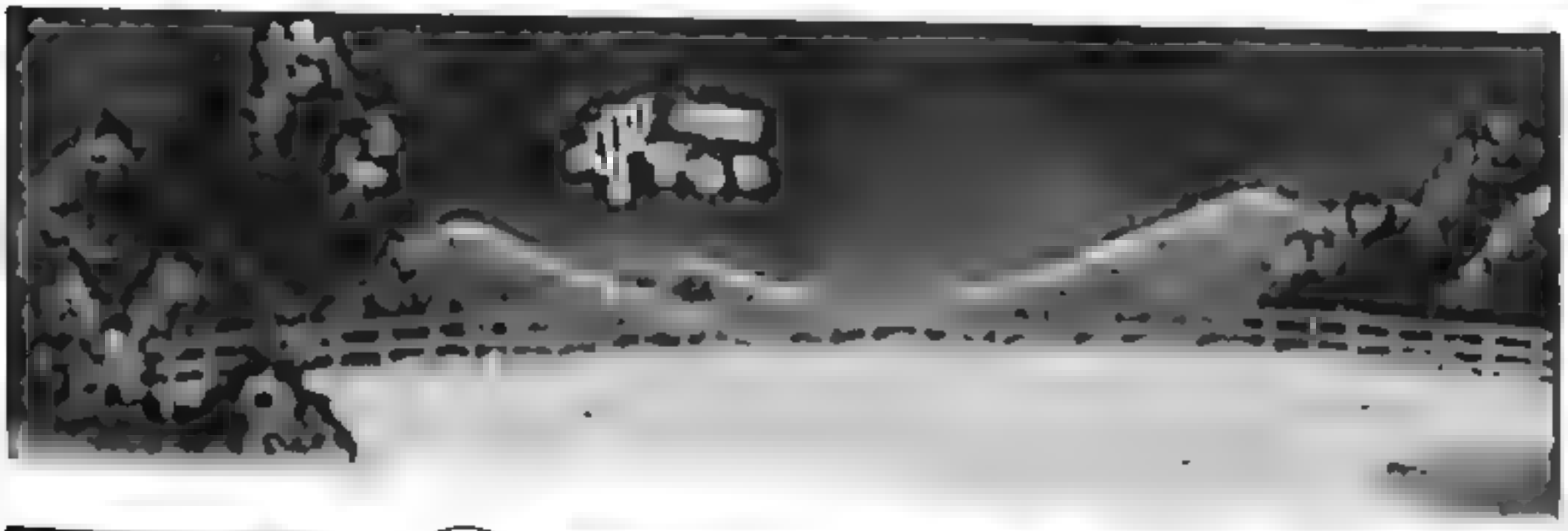


YEAH.
NOT BAD
IT'S SO BEAUT-FUL
GOTTA ADMIT, THIS IS A GREAT V'EW

ANOTHER BATH, EH? I WONDER WH— NAH, BEST NOT TO ASK.

HE SAID HE'D COME LATER WITH SNACKS.

COME TO THINK OF IT, KOIZUMI WAS ABOUT TO GET IN THE BATH WHEN WE INVITED HIM TO COME ALONG...

I'M PLEASED YOU'RE ENJOYING IT.

GIGGLE

GLINT

YEAH!

STILL, THE STARS ARE SO BRIGHT AND CLEAR THAT YOU FEEL LIKE A SPACESHIP MIGHT SHOW UP!

HMPH.

GREAT, TIME FOR SOME ASTRO-NOMICAL OBSER-VATIONS!

DASH

WAAAH...

OH, YUKI, YOU BELIEVE IN ALIENS?

UH—

.....

LISTEN, ASA-KURA...

HMM?

I WASN'T GOING TO DO ANYTHING, Y'KNOW? YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON ME.

FWISH

YOU SHOULD TRUST ME A LITTLE MORE.

EVEN IF SHE WANTS SOMETHING, SHE WON'T LET HERSELF HAVE IT.

KYON-KUN, ABOUT NAGATO-SAN...

...SHE TENDS TO HOLD HERSELF BACK, YOU KNOW?

YOU NOT DOING ANYTHING IS ANOTHER PROBLEM, THOUGH.

IT'S ONE OF HER FAILINGS.

BUT IT'S PART OF WHAT MAKES HER SO KIND.

...FOR EXAMPLE...

AND I GUESS I'M SAYING I WANT YOU TO THINK OF THOSE PRECIOUS ASPECTS OF HER YOURSELF...

...YOU SHOULD TAKE *HER* HAND, KYON-KUN.

...WHEN SHE WANTS TO HOLD YOUR HAND BUT IS TOO EMBARRASSED TO AND HOLDS BACK...

...AT LITTLE MOMENTS LIKE THAT...

GOOD EVENING! YOU ALL MUST BE QUITE TIRED.

SWISH

SWISH

WHEW.

...I KNOW.

AH, I WANT SOMETHING TO DRINK!

YAY, MIZUMI! YOU MADE IT!

SNACK-TIME!

GREAT, NOW IT'S TIME TO DECIDE WHAT WE'RE GONNA DO UNDER THE NIGHT SKY!

ISN'T CHATTING WHILE WE STARGAZE GOOD ENOUGH?

NO WAY. WE'D HAVE NO ENERGY FOR THE RETURN TRIP.

ANYONE UP FOR TAG?

LOOKS LIKE IT.

EVERY-BODY'S FINALLY HERE!

BEAM

NAGA-
TO...

...KOIZUMI
BROUGHT
ALL KINDS
OF STUFF...

...SO...

NO...

IT'S
JUST
...

SOME
KIND OF
RITUAL?

YEAH.
YOU READY?
...IT LOOKS ALMOST AS IF I COULD TOUCH THEM, BUT THEN I CAN'T...
HUH?
GRAB

...OKAY.

LET'S GO!

Epilogue 26>> Rainy Day

JUNE.

WHEW.

IT REALLY IS.

...BUT THIS CONSTANT RAIN IS RATHER UNPLEASANT.

IT MAY BE SEASONALLY APPROPRIATE...

IT'S SO... MELANCHOLY.

I KNOW.

SSSH

I CAN'T EVEN DRY MY LAUNDRY OUTSIDE...

IT'S THROWN MY WHOLE RHYTHM OFF, AND I'M JUST TOTALLY OUT OF IT...

TIME TO REJECT THIS REALITY...

...AND SUBSTITUTE MY OWN!

ASAKURA-SAN...

OH NO!

I MUST GO...

...MY SYNAPSES ARE CALLING...

HEH...THE PINK SKY, THE GOLDEN SUN, THE FORGOTTEN LAND...

I-I-I'VE GOTTA STOP HER!

ASAKURA-SAN, WAKE UP! COME BACK TO US!

THAT LAND, PATARON-TORA...

...MUST BORROW THE POWER OF KASTOS-TROFI.

C'MON, IT WAS JUST A JOKE. I WAS JUST TEASING YOU.

EH? IT WAS?

NAGATO-SAN, I GIVE! I GIVE! GIVE! UNCLE!

SORRY, SORRY!

I WAS WORRIED YOU'D REALLY SNAPPED.

AH, THANK GOOD-NESS!

YOU'RE ALWAYS SO QUICK TO JUMP TO CON-CLUSIONS!

SPLISH

SPLISH

SPLISH

MAYBE WE SHOULD PICK UP THE UMBRELLAS.

.....

YEAH.

YUP

WHEN IT'S OVER?

WE SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT WHAT WE'RE GONNA DO WHEN THE RAINY SEASON'S OVER.

REJECTING REALITY MIGHT BE GOING A LITTLE TOO FAR, BUT

AHH.

"AHH"? DON'T YOU CARE?

IT'LL BE SUMMER VACATION! SUMMER. VACATION.

YOU WILL!

HUH?

IF THAT'S YOUR ATTI-TUDE GOING INTO THIS, YOU'RE GONNA REGRET IT!

HONESTLY.

AND ALTHOUGH IT'LL BE A NICE LONG VACATION, YOUR OPPORTUNITIES TO SEE KYON-KUN WILL PROBABLY DROP.

SO YOU'D BETTER START COMING UP WITH EXCUSES TO KEEP THAT FROM HAPPENING.

WHEN SUMMER BREAK COMES, THE LITERATURE CLUB WILL ALSO BE ON BREAK.

OH!

...*LET'S ALL GO SET OFF FIRE-WORKS.*

"IT'S HOT, LET'S GO TO THE POOL!" OR...

ANYTHING WORKS!

BUT WHEN YOU SAY "EXCUSES" ...

YEAH... I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT...

RIGHT?

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A BIG DEAL LIKE A FIELD TRIP OR ANYTHING.

I SEE!

SWF

THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS YOU HAVEN'T DONE WITH HIM YET, RIGHT?

YOU'VE ONLY KNOWN KYON-KUN FOR HALF A YEAR.

BEAM

IT'S ONLY BEEN HALF A YEAR.

...OH—

THAT'S RIGHT...

YEAH...

HUH? DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?

SORRY, NAGATO-SAN... I GUESS I REALLY AM OUT OF IT TODAY.

?

THE SEMES-TER'S GONE BY SO FAST...

RIGHT!

FIRE-WORKS... THE POOL...

HA-HA... OKAY, SEE YOU LATER!

THERE'S A SALE TODAY.

OKAY, SEE YOU LATER!

OH, WE COULD GO TO A FESTIVAL TOO.

I WILL!

...SO TAKE CARE ON YOUR WAY HOME, OKAY?

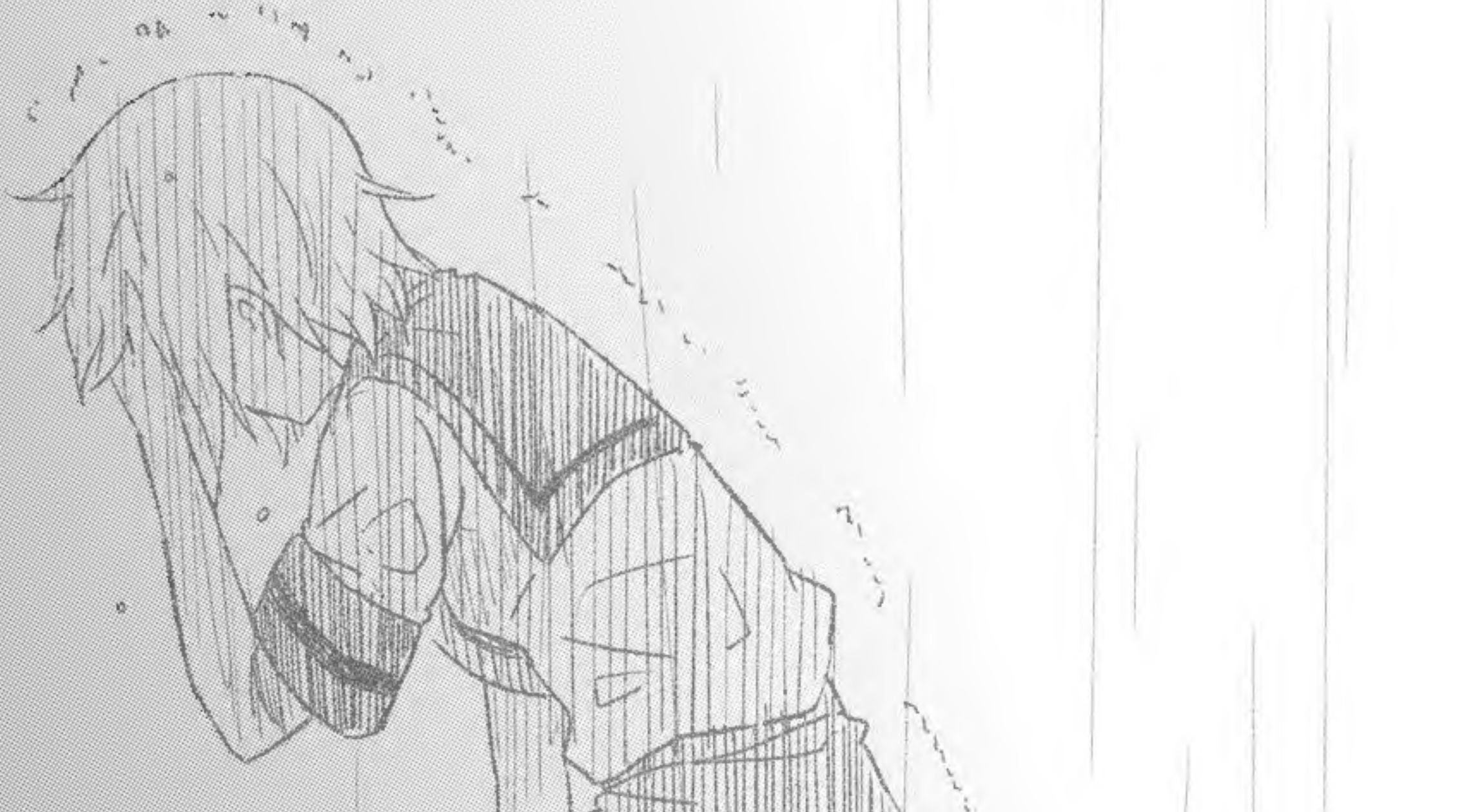
IT'S HARD TO SEE IN THE RAIN...

SO MANY PLACES I WANT TO GO...

THINGS I WANT TO DO...

AND IF WE CAN DO THEM TOGETHER...

I'M SURE...



THE DISAPPEARANCE OF NAGATO
YUKI-CHAN
3

Original Story: Nagaru Tanigawa
Manga: PUYO
Character Design: Noizi Ito

Translation: Paul Starr
Lettering: Jennifer Skarupa

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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